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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : National Phase Entry of PCT/EP2004/014392

Applicant : Matthias WITSCHEL et al

Filed : Herewith

TC/A.U. : Examiner :

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Docket No.: 3165-146 Customer No.: 6449 Confirmation No.:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendments before calculation of the filing fee and examination of the merits.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.